

## Message Text

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41

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02

USIA-06 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 IO-13

LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01

CEA-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 /110 W

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R 271710Z SEP 76

FM US MISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1942

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 2525

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: UNCTAD, EEC

SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION VIEWS ON UNCTAD TDB AGENDA

REF: EC BRUSSELS 9419

1. EC COMMISSION CHIEF FOR UNCTAD AFFAIRS, ALAN RUSSELL, BRIEFED A MISSION OFFICER ON ABOVE SUBJECT. RUSSELL WILL BE REPRESENTING COMMISSION AT NEXT TDB MEETING AND HAS PREPARED A DRAFT POSITION PAPER FOR MEETING WHICH MEMBER STATE EXPERTS WILL SHORTLY TAKE UP. RUSSELL EXPECTED THE MEETING TO FOCUS ON PROCEDURAL MATTERS AND TO TAKE FEW SUBSTANTIVE DECISIONS.

2. THE COMMISSION PLANS TO LIMIT ITS DISCUSSION OF A POSSIBLE TDB MINISTERIAL MEETING TO ASPECTS OF THE AGENDA. REGARDING THE UNCTAD AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION GROUP ON COMMODITIES, THE COMMISSION WILL FOCUS ON THE MANDATE FOR THE COMMITTEE.

RUSSELL WANTS MEMBERSHIP TO BE BALANCED BETWEEN PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS; HE PREFERS TO KEEP THE COMMITTEE AS SMALL AS POSSIBLE.

(SEE REFTEL REGARDING COMMISSION PROPOSAL FOR TIMING OF MEETING.) THE COMMISSION PROPOSES NO NEW INITIATIVES

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CONCERNING FINANCIAL ISSUES AND PLANS TO RESIST ANY INITIATIVES

IN THIS REGARD.

3. REGARDING THE ISSUE OF RELIEF FOR LDC EXTERNAL DEBT, THE COMMISSION PROPOSES USING THE JOINT US/EC STATEMENT ON DEBT AT CIEC. IT WILL SUGGEST THAT CIEC IS CURRENTLY THE APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR SUCH DISCUSSIONS AND THAT THE TDB SHOULD NOT HAMPER THESE DISCUSSIONS BY TAKING UP POSSIBLE DEBT RELIEF MEASURES AT THIS TIME. REGARDING THE PROPOSED TBD RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP ON DEBT ISSUES, THE COMMISSION PLANS TO COORDINATE ITS POSITION WITH GROUP B. RUSSELL HAS IN MIND THE POSSIBILITY OF NOT OBJECTING TO THIS PROPOSAL ON THE CONDITION THAT THIS GROUP WOULD NOT MEET UNTIL CIEC IS OVER.

4. ON THE QUESTION OF THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, RUSSELL NOTES THAT THE US MISSION AT GENEVA CIRCULATED A LETTER DATED SEPTEMBER 13 TO GROUP B COUNTRIES SUGGESTING VARIOUS PROCEDURAL POINTS. RUSSELL HOPES THESE POINTS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN UP WITHIN GROUP B. RUSSELL HAS THE IMPRESSION FROM THIS LETTER THAT US FAVORS ONLY THE "VOLUNTARY" TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY. THE COMMISSION ALSO FAVORS THIS POINT OF VIEW, BUT IT COULD CONSIDER A "MIXED" SYSTEM OF TRANSFER, OF THE LDC'S INSISTED UPON IT. THE COMMISSION HOWEVER HOPES TO AVOID A SUBSTANTIVE TDB DISCUSSION ON THIS POINT AT THIS TIME.

5. RUSSELL ADDS THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO CONSULT WITH THE US DELEGATION, ESPECIALLY STATE/EB-PREEG AND BOERNER; HE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED OF THEIR ARRIVAL PLANS IN GENEVA. HINTON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMMODITIES, COPPER, BRIEFING MATERIALS, MEETING DELEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976ECBRU09420  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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**Reference:** 76 EC BRUSSELS 9419  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <01 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2004 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EC COMMISSION VIEWS ON UNCTAD TDB AGENDA  
**TAGS:** EMIN, UNCTAD, EEC, (RUSSELL, ALAN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006